



# Ethics Gram

February 2016

*US Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command  
(USASMDC/ARSTRAT)*



## **Prohibited Political Activities by Active Duty Soldiers:**

- Soliciting votes for a candidate in Federal facilities or on military reservations.
- Soliciting or engaging in fundraising activities for any political cause or candidate while in Federal offices or facilities.
- Selling tickets for or otherwise promoting partisan political dinners and similar fundraising events.
- Using your official authority or influence to interfere with an election, or affect the course or outcome of an election.
- Using your official authority or influence to solicit votes for a particular candidate or issue.
- Using your official authority or influence to require or solicit political contributions from others.

## **Political Activities**

### **By Members of the Armed Forces**

As we are entering the primary election season leading to the elections in November, Active-Duty Soldiers must be cognizant of the "Do's and Don'ts" during political elections. Guidelines of permissible and prohibited activities for Active Duty Soldiers follow. Violations of these rules will provide a basis for disciplinary under the UCMJ.

For more detailed information, visit <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/134410p.pdf> for [www.apd.army.mil/pdf/files/r600\\_20.pdf](http://www.apd.army.mil/pdf/files/r600_20.pdf), paragraph 5-3 and Appendix B.

### **Soldiers Can:**

- Register, vote and express a personal opinion on political candidates and issues, but not as a representative of the Army.
- Promote and encourage other military members to vote, but cannot attempt to influence or interfere with the outcome of an election.
- Join a political club and attend its meetings, but not in uniform.
- Make contributions to political organizations, parties, or committees favoring a candidate(s).
- Attend partisan or nonpartisan political fund-raising events, meetings, rallies, debates, and conventions, but not in uniform.
- Display a political sticker on a private vehicle.

### **Soldiers Cannot:**

- Participate in partisan political fundraising activities, rallies, and conventions. Participation includes more than mere attendance as a spectator.
- Serve in any official capacity with or be listed as a sponsor of a partisan political club.
- Speak before a partisan political gathering, including any gathering that promotes a partisan political party, candidate, or cause.
- Participate in any radio, television, or other program or group discussion as an advocate for or against a partisan political party, candidate, or cause.
- Solicit or otherwise engage in fundraising activities in Federal offices or facilities, including military reservations, for any political cause or candidate.
- March or ride in a partisan political parade.
- Display a large political sign, banner, or poster (as opposed to a bumper sticker) on a POV.
- Participate in any organized effort to provide voters with transportation to the polls if the effort is organized by or associated with a partisan political party, cause, or candidate.
- Perform clerical or other duties for a partisan political committee or candidate during a campaign, on election day, or after an election during the process of closing out a campaign.

***If you have any questions, contact your Ethics Counselor  
Huntsville – (256) 955-2181; Colorado Springs (719) 554-2126***